

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following new paragraph after the Title and before the "Technical Field":

-- Related Application

This application is the U.S. National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/008706, filed on June 21, 2004, which in turn claims the benefit of Japanese Application No. 2003-275719 filed on July 17, 2003, Japanese Patent Application No. Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-304752 filed on August 28, 2003, and Japanese Patent Application No. 2004-053589 filed on February 27, 2004, the disclosure of which Applications are incorporated by reference herein. —

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 14 at line 14 as follows:

A needle pointer type meter according to the invention is characterized in that the light source and the index plate light source are supported by a common belt-shaped flexible conductor.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 16 at line 20 as follows:

[Fig. 16] Fig. 16 is a cross-sectional view of the needle pointer type meter taken along a line B-B in Fig. 15 [[16]].

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 26 at line 8 as follows:

The display device [[7]] 8 is produced by incorporating a display panel constituted by TFT (thin-film transistor) type liquid crystal display elements or organic electric-field light-emitting elements, for example, into a frame body. The display device 7 is disposed on the circuit board 9 such that the display surface of the display panel faces to the first and second through-vision sections 11 and 31. Any information can be displayed on the display device 8, examples of which involve travel distance information, navigation information, shift position information, outside temperature information, and other various picture information.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 26 at line 23 and bridging page 27 as follows:

As described above, the needle pointer type meter in this embodiment includes: the index plate 1 which has the first through-vision section 11 and the indexes 12 surrounding the first through-vision section 11; the rotary body 3 which has the second through-vision section 31 corresponding to the first through-vision section 11; the drive device 6 for moving the rotary body 3; the needle pointer 4 which is attached to the rotary body 3 and moves along the indexes ~~[[13]]~~ 12 around the circumference of the first through-vision section 11; the light sources L2 for illuminating the needle pointer 4; and the display device 7 for displaying predetermined information to the observer through the first and second through-vision sections 11 and 31. The plural light sources L2 are disposed at certain intervals along the movement route of the needle pointer 4. The needle pointer 4 is made of a light-transmissive material which emits light when receiving light coming from a given light source L2 of the plural light sources L2 in accordance with the movement of the needle pointer 4. In this structure, since the light source energizing route does not move, the light source energizing components does not receive stress caused due to the movement of the needle pointer. Thus, the reliability is enhanced. Moreover, the condition where the light source energizing components become an obstacle in the component layout can be prevented, which increases design freedom.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 28 at line 24 and bridging page 29 as follows:

In this embodiment, the following structure is employed. The light introduction plate 2 is disposed between the light introduction portion 43 and the index plate 1. The light sources L2 are opposed to the outer peripheral side (light receiving surface) 46 of the light introduction portion 43. Light emitted from the light sources L2 is introduced through the outer peripheral side 46 so that the indicator 44 can emit light. The plural index light sources L1, which are disposed at certain intervals in such positions that the respective light emitting portions LF face to the first ~~index~~ through-vision section 11, are opposed to the outer peripheral side 22 of the light introduction plate 2. Light coming from the index light sources L1 is introduced through the outer peripheral side 22 of the light introduction plate 2 so that the indexes 12 can emit light. In this structure, the indexes 12 as well as the needle pointer 4 can be illuminated while securing the size of the first through-vision section 11.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 29 at line 22 as follows:

In this embodiment, the light sources L2 and the index ~~plate~~ light sources L1 are supported on the common belt-shaped flexible conductor 9. Since the number of the components is reduced, the working efficiency in assembling can be increased.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 30 at line 10 as follows:

In this embodiment, more specifically, light sources L arranged in a single row are opposed to both the light receiving portion ~~[[43]]~~ 46 as the outer peripheral side of the light introduction portion 43 and the outer peripheral side 22 of the light introduction plate 2. Light coming from the light sources L is introduced through the respective outer peripheral sides 22 and ~~[[43]]~~ 46 into both the light introduction portion ~~[[34]]~~ 43 and the light introduction plate 2 such that the indicator 44 and the indexes 12 can emit light. In this structure, since the number of the light sources is decreased, cost reduction can be achieved.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 30 at line 21 as follows:

Fig. 7 is a ~~cross-sectional~~ plain view illustrating a main part of a third embodiment according to the invention. In this embodiment, a belt-shaped body which shifts in the longitudinal direction is used as the rotary body in lieu of the rotary body (movable body) 3 as the gear wheel.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 31 at line 20 and bridging page 32 as follows:

More specifically, the light source L is constituted by EL (electro luminescence), for example, which extends along the movement route of the needle pointer 4. A circular-arc-shaped light-emitting region LR of the light source L is disposed in such a position as to face to the first through-vision section 11. The light introduction portion 43 of the needle pointer 4 receives light from a particular region of the light-emitting region LR which emits light from its plane in accordance with the movement of the needle pointer 4, so that the needle pointer 4 can emit light. The light coming from the light source L is also introduced through the outer

peripheral side 22 into the light introduction plate 2 so that the indexes ~~[[13]]~~ 12 can be illuminated through the light introduction plate 2.

Please amend the paragraph on page 32 at line 16 as follows:

In the ~~fourth~~ fifth embodiment, the same advantages as those in the first embodiment can be offered.

Please amend the paragraph on page 32 at line 22 and bridging page 33 as follows:

More specifically, the light source L is formed by a discharge tube such as CCT and CFL, for example, which extends along the movement route of the needle pointer 4. The circular-arc-shaped light-emitting region LR of the light source L is disposed in such a position as to face to the first through-vision section 11. The light introduction portion 43 of the needle pointer 4 receives light from a particular region of the light-emitting region LR which linearly emits light in accordance with the movement of the needle pointer 4, so that the needle pointer 4 can emit light. The light coming from the light source L is also introduced through the outer peripheral side 22 into the light introduction plate 2 so that the indexes ~~[[13]]~~ 12 can be illuminated through the light introduction plate 2.

Please amend the paragraph on page 34 at line 2 as follows:

More specifically, the light transmissive body 100 is made of substantially colorless and transparent synthetic resin, and has a circular arc shape extending along the movement route of the needle pointer 4. An inner peripheral side wall 101 of the light transmissive body 100 is opposed to the outer peripheral sides 22 and 46 of the light introduction plate 2 and the needle pointer 4, respectively. As illustrated in Fig. 13, the light sources L are disposed close to open ends 102 of the light transmissive body 100. Light coming from the light sources L is introduced through the open ends 102 into the light transmissive body 100 so that the light transmissive body 100 can emit light. The light introduced through the open ends 102 into the light transmissive body 100 is reflected by an outer peripheral side wall 103 toward the inner peripheral side wall 101, and then is introduced through the inner peripheral side wall 101 into the light introduction plate 2 and the needle pointer 4 so that the indexes ~~[[13]]~~ 12 and the

indicator 44 can be illuminated. In this structure, therefore, the inner peripheral side wall 101 functions as a light supplying portion. In the eighth embodiment, the same advantages as those in the first, second, fourth and sixth embodiments can be offered.